FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER.

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EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS

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Young America.—Prominent among the evils of our day is the disposition to put away old things, even things that are stamped with the wisdom of ages, and to see only by the new lights of progress. With many, it seems, the chief thing we have learned in forty centuries, is that we have learned nothing worthy of respect. Young America is rampant in the flush and vigor of youth, and arrogant in self-sufficiency. It attempts with a bound things that are accustomed to be achieved only by years of toil, and boasts of a capability for everything, except a wholesome restraint. Gray wisdom and reverend virtue are jostled in the highway, to make room for the rush of progress, as if the race were always to the swift, and the battle to the strong. And Young America, hotter, is a noun of the common gender. It is feminine, as well as masculine, and may be seen in bonnet and curls, as well as in Kossuth hat and moustache. It goes to all the balls and parties, and thinks it "fast"—peeps in the library door at home, and votes it decidedly "slow." It sings lazily in the parlor, and modestly asks its mother to hand the footstool, or its father to pass the cake; but it is just reading, and only really wishes up to life when masculine Young America steps in with a strut, to tell how it "had done the Crystal Brown" yesterday, and "what a jolly set it was"—"such capital fun you know."

If there be one among you who has any such exhibition as this before her, may Providence be kind to her! For she will never, I fear, be good for others if, or to others. She may make a showy and expensive article of furniture for a fashionable establishment; but nothing more. Pardon me if I wrong you by such an intimation. But rise early by holding up to your gaze in proper colors what is false and unlovely, that you can learn rightly to appreciate the beautiful and true.

Rather be yours the generous ambition to shine only in the pure excellence of virtue and refinement. Be prouder to make the happiness of one true heart, than to fill the shallow admiration of a thousand false ones. Go forth, then, into the world, and meet its trials and dangers, its duties and pleasures, with a firm integrity of heart and mind, looking ever onward and upward and walking erect before the gaze of men, fearless, because without reproach. When the glad sunshine is upon you, rejoice and be happy. When the dark hours come, fight them with a gentle patience, and a christian faith. If you have work to do, do it bravely. If pleasure calls, enjoy it wisely. If your lot is humble, dignify it by a noble fortitude, and a pure and loving heart. So may even poverty and humility be blessed unto you. If rank and station are yours, so fill them, that, without imparting nothing, they may derive additional honor and grace from you.

Davis's Address.

LIFE AND MORALS IN NEW YORK.

The "lovely" proclivities of the enamored Miss Baker was in striking contrast to the aspiring tendencies of Miss McKee, daughter of tailor McKee, who entered into the holy bonds with a French gentleman last week, possessor of astounding whiskers and moustache, and "nearly allied to a noble family." Three hundred cards were issued for the wedding, which took place at Grace Church. The bride entered by one door, followed by six bridesmaids, and having hold of the executor's hand. She was attired in a flowing robe of white satin, festooned up the side with point d'aiguille and pearls; her veil, which cost a thousand dollars, was gracefully draped around her youthful face, which had a saffron tendency. At the same instant the bridegroom entered the other door, followed by six groomsmen, in blue coats, and white vests, at which the bride looked rather disconcerted, and the three hundred dear friends laughed behind their fans. On their return from church the reception was magnificent—one large room in the mansion being devoted to the bridal presents. There were Cashmere shawls, boxes of jewels, sets of silver, and rich lace dresses piled up in inexhaustible profusion. It was also known that the lady had many rich relatives, and people wondered, admired, and went away. Next morning, Monsieur desired to see some of the costly gifts, so as to examine them more at his leisure.

"Now, now," said he, impatiently as the ex-Miss McKee, showed him a lace dress from her dear papa," and a set of plated knives, with pearl handles from "ma;" "de *Cashmeres*, de *diamonds*, dat vat I vant to see."

The bride tried to shirk the question, but the bridegroom was imperative, and she was at last obliged, blushingly and with much hesitation, to confess that the diamonds were hired for the occasion at Tiffany's and the fifteen hundred dollar shawls from Stewart's.

The gentleman has since requested the lady's father to hand over whatever money he intends to give his daughter as he is tired of "dis tam country," and wants to go back to "*la belle France*."

The result is New York society (God help us!) is getting into a most distressing condition. Our young women are influenced by only two emotions—love of display and love of admiration, and fly open their arms to whatever ministers to these two passions. Added to this, they are idle, and Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do." If nothing worse, they marry their father's coachman, or their music teacher, or some interesting foreigner with more hair than brains, and more rascality than either. Men of intellect rarely seek in "society" for wives, generally preferring women educated away from its penetrating influence, which they know withers and dries up every fresh and innocent feeling.—*Petersburg Express.*

Recognizing Providence.—A short time since there was a very destructive fire in Mobile, Alabama, which destroyed some 12,000 bales of cotton. When the news reached the interior, a gentleman who had quite a large amount of cotton in the city took immediate steps to ascertain if he had sustained any loss. Upon learning that he had not, and upon consultation with his wife, set apart $500, a donation to benevolent objects, as a thank offering for providential preservation.

Daniel Dickson, Esq., has been re-appointed Postmaster at Wilmington, N. C.

Defalcation.—It will be remembered that the telegraph recently announced to us the defalcation of John Oxnard, of New Orleans. He was a well known stock and exchange broker, and he is not only a defaulter to the extent of $80,000, but has disappeared in the Havana steamer with a large amount—estimated as high as $50,000—of exchange and promissory notes, obtained from various parties, under the plea that he could dispose of them forthwith. It is said that he furnished his own checks as security for these sums, knowing that he would have time to depart before their absolute worthlessness could be discovered. It is perhaps some alleviation that he left behind him a letter for the swindled parties, assuring them of ultimate payment—the matter being merely a question of time—and that they could better afford to be out of the money than personal friends to whom he was indebted, and who he felt it a matter of honor to pay. The cause of the defalcation may be found in the statement of the *Texas Delta*, that "Col. John Oxnard kept fine and fast horses, splendid and fashionable women, lived high and played high at the clubs and gambling saloons, and was, in the highest sense of the term, a "fast man."—*Charleston Courier.*

The Way to be Happy.—A story is told of two travellers in Lapland, which throws more light on the art of being happy than a whole volume of proverbs and aphorisms. Upon a very cold day in winter they were driving along in a sledge wrapped up in furs from head to foot. Even their faces were closely covered, and you could hardly see anything but their eye-brows, and these were white and glistening with frost. At length they saw a poor man who had sunken down benumbed and frozen in the snow. "We must stop and help him," said one of the travelers. "Stop and help him," replied the other, "you will never think of stopping on such a day as this! We are half frozen ourselves, and ought to be at our journey's end as soon as possible." "But I cannot leave this man to perish," rejoined the more humane traveller; "I must go to his relief," and he stopped his sledge. "Come," said he, "come and help me to raise him." "Not I," replied the other; "I have too much regard for my own life to expose myself to this freezing atmosphere more than is necessary. I will sit here, and keep myself as warm as I can till you come back." So saying he resolutely kept his seat; while his companion hastened to relieve the perishing man, whom they had so providentially discovered. The ordinary means were used for restoring consciousness. But the traveller was so intent upon saving the life of a fellow creature that he forgot his own exposure; and what were the consequences? Why the very efforts which he made to warm the stranger warmed himself. He had the sweet consciousness of doing a benevolent act, and he also found himself glowing from head to feet, by reason of the exertions which he made. And how was it with his companion, who was so much afraid of exposing himself? He was almost ready to freeze, notwithstanding the efforts he had been making to keep him warm! The lesson to be derived from this little incident is very obvious.—*N. Y. Observer.*

A Safe House to Sleep In.—A lawyer of high reputation in the city of Philadelphia, was travelling in one of the Southern States, and being belated one evening, after a long day's ride, he was compelled to turn into a house on a solitary plantation, and ask for shelter and hospitality for the night. His request was granted. In the course of the evening he thought he observed something reserved in the master of the house, which awakened his suspicions. He was at length conducted to his chamber, which was adjoining the family room. There he dwelt on the circumstances which alarmed him till his excited imagination was filled with thoughts of nightly robbery and assassination. He proceeded to barricade the room as best he could. He fastened down the windows; against the doors he piled up tables, chairs, everything that was movable in the room. While thus engaged, words uttered in a low voice caught his ear and increased his alarm. He placed his ear at the key hole. The man of the house was engaged in family prayer. Among the objects of his intercession, he was praying for "the stranger whom the providence of God had unexpectedly brought to lodge beneath their roof that night." When he got through, our traveling friend arose from his stooping posture. Imagine the change in his feelings. All his fears had vanished. Though no Christian himself, he knew that the prayers of Christians are like guardian angels to the abode in which they are offered up, and went to bed and slept soundly and sweetly, feeling that the house where God was feared and worshipped, was *a safe house to sleep in.*—*American Messenger.*

I never yet found pride in a noble nature, nor humility in an unworthy mind * * * * Of all trees, I observe God hath chosen the vine, a low plant, that creeps upon the helpful wall: of all beasts, the soft and patient lamb: of all fowls, the mild and gallless dove. When God appeared to Moses, it was not in the lofty cedar, nor the sturdy oak, nor the spreading plane; but in a bush, a humble, slender, abject bush. As if He would by these elections check the conceited arrogance of man. Nothing procureth love, like humility: nothing hate, like pride.

Feltham's Resolves.

Our late Secretary of State, Mr. Marcy, was and is a wag as well as a match for the diplomatists around him. A sturdy American some time ago told him, with great solemnity, that fourteen out of the nineteen clerks employed in the State Department were *Roman Catholics*—and he paused to hear the Secretary's expression of surprise, regret or excuse. "Ah!" said Mr. Marcy, with his imperturbable bland smile, and quiet manner, "I am glad to hear it; I did'nt know that I had so many as fourteen clerks with any religion at all!"

A Sensible Father.—The Sunday Atlas says that a gentleman of great wealth in New York, but who has never cared to mingle much in fashionable society, recently settled $15,000 a year on a daughter who had married to his satisfaction. In speaking on the subject to a friend the other day, he remarked he was willing to do the same by his other daughters on one condition—that they married respectable, upright and industrious young men. He did not care how poor they were so they were only of this description, and their characters would bear investigation.

The Elmira, N. Y., Advertiser in speaking of the fashions says: "Strip all the men and women of our village of their fine clothes, and what a change would be apparent." The proposition would seem to be self evident, but what would become of our modesty?

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 23, 1857.

THE COST OF DEMOCRACY.—The Raleigh Standard, in an article bitterly opposing a distribution of the proceeds of the public lands, makes the following statement:

"North-Carolina, according to an estimate made by Mr. Gorrell, of Guilford, in a speech delivered in the last Legislature, consumes about fourteen millions of dollars worth of merchandize, purchased almost entirely in the Northern States, and on which she pays a tax averaging twenty-five per cent. *ad valorem.* It may, therefore, be safely assumed that our people annually pay to the general government and to the Northern manufacturers, *three millions of dollars by way of tariff taxes.* This drain goes on continually, (creating a demand for Northern exchange,) for the support of the government and the benefit of Northern manufacturers. Are we to be told that, because we do not pay this directly to the tax collector, our wealth as a people is not diminished? It is paid by every person who purchases articles of merchandize, to the merchant who sells these articles—he having paid his per cent. in profits to the importing merchant, and the latter having first paid the duty or the tax to the government. *It is a tax*—an insidious, perpetual, eating tax; and it has been upon us, with more or less weight, for thirty years. It has drawn from our hard earnings not less than *one hundred millions of dollars;* and much of this vast amount has gone to swell the profits of manufacturers, many of whom are our deadly enemies."

"*Three millions of dollars*" per annum! "*One hundred millions of dollars*"! in the last thirty years, have been drawn from the pockets of the hard working people of North Carolina, much of it "to swell the profits of manufacturers, many of whom are our deadly enemies"!

This is the statement of the Raleigh Standard. It is no "*Whig* lie."

Who has done this thing? Who is it that has levied this "insidious, perpetual, eating tax," as the Standard has it, for the benefit of Northern manufacturers? Let us see.

On the 4th of March 1829—28 years ago—Andrew Jackson, the great founder of modern democracy, was inaugurated President of the United States. He served as President *eight* years.

He was succeeded, March 4th 1837, by Martin Van Buren,—his protege, and the pet of the Democracy of that day—who served *four* years.

March 4th, 1841 Gen. Harrison became President and remained so *one* month. The balance of the term was served by John Tyler, who turned Democrat soon after he succeeded to power. Three years and eleven months.

March 4th 1845 Jas. K. Polk, Democrat, was inaugurated and served *four* years.

March 4th 1849 Gen. Taylor became President, and the administration, or rather the President, was Whig for four years.

Franklin Pierce, Democrat, succeeded and served until March 4th 1857.

Of the 28 years then, the administration has been in the hands of the Democratic party 23 years and 11 months! And according to the Raleigh Standard, at the rate of three millions per annum, the Democratic party has drawn from the pockets of the people of North Carolina *seventy-one million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars!* For the benefit of North Carolina? Not at all. But "*to swell the profits of manufacturers, many of whom are our deadly enemies*"! And this is the work of Democracy, of the "peculiar" friends of the "peculiar" institution of the South. Well may the South, with such an exhibit before it, ask to be saved from *such* friends.

Having made such an exhibit of the manner in which the State has been drained of its wealth, one would suppose that the Standard would use every exertion to secure for North Carolina some return. But the Standard has no such views. The return of any portion of this large amount paid by North Carolina, in the shape of land proceeds, the Standard tells us, "would be accompanied with so many badges of degradation and dependence." We who demand from the government that the trust which it received shall be administered for the benefit of all the States, "North Carolina included," are held up as beggars, "humbly petitioning the great, overbearing, aggressive and hard-hearted North, grown rich on our staples," to give us a dollar of land proceeds and take two dollars more in tariff taxes.

No one knows better than the Standard the fallacy of such objections. Was North Carolina "degraded" by the $1,600,000 which she received in 1836? We never heard so. $300,000 of the State debt was paid; and with the balance the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad was pushed forward to completion, and the Common School Fund established. There is surely no "degradation" to the State in any of these results; and the legislature of the State, a Democratic legislature we believe, thought there was no "degradation" in receiving the money. Not a voice was raised against it.

Nor will there be any additional "*tariff taxation.*" The present tariff raises more revenue than is needed, and the new tariff will raise quite as much as is needed; if indeed the new system does not (by vastly increasing the importations) swell the customs far above the amount now received, and far above the sum necessary for the support of the government.

This, however, is speculation, and men may honestly differ in their speculations. The *facts*, about which there can be no difference, for they are derived from official sources, are, that after paying all the expenses of government, there is a large surplus in the treasury: that on July 1st, 1857, that surplus will be over $22,000,000; that the new tariff is sufficient for the support of the government, and that the surplus is not needed for the Government. It *is* needed by North Carolina. It was created, in part, by North Carolina. And part of it of right belongs to North Carolina. Shall North Carolina have her share of this surplus, or shall it be expended, as the federal money has ever been expended, not for her benefit but for that of the North? Or, what is more likely still, shall it be worse than wasted in corrupting our public men at Washington?

The unanimous vote of our Congressmen, at the late session, in favor of a distribution of this surplus among the States, leads us to hope that in the coming canvass they will arouse the people to a sense of its importance. Democracy has cost us, according to the Standard, many millions of dollars. Let a portion be repaid, and we shall not stop to inquire by what *party* the repayment has been made. The *money*, not party success, is what is wanted.

HARNETT COUNTY.—At a meeting of the Board of Superintendents of Common Schools for Harnett County, on Monday last, Gen. A. D. McLean was appointed Chairman of the Board; and the Committee of Examination to consist of Gen. A. D. McLean, B. F. Shaw, Esq., and Dr. W. M. McNeill.

WINTER YET LINGERS.—We had a severe white frost this morning. The season has been a very remarkable one, and it is feared will prove a disastrous one to the agricultural interest.

Complaints of the weather come to us from all quarters. We read of heavy snow storms at the North. Within 20 miles of Baltimore, on Sunday last, snow fell to the depth of 6 or 8 inches; and in the Western part of New York, last week, 20 inches.

A subscriber, writing to us from Alamance county, N. C., says,—

"We have nothing new or of special interest here. We have had a cold unfavorable Spring, and vegetation is unusually backward. The late frosts have killed all the fruit and seriously damaged the oat crop and early gardens. Wheat, however, looks promising, and present appearances indicate an abundant crop.

The amount of land put down in wheat is unusually large, the system of farming is much better than in former years, and in addition to that our farmers generally use guano and other fertilizers to a great extent; and then the high prices of flour and the facilities for getting it off have greatly stimulated the wheat growing interest."

The Fayetteville Observer enquires about the nature of the contract with Dungan, Cartwright & Co. There is no disposition to use any concealment about it, but the legal document is a long one, with many provisions, and the papers here have not deemed it proper to publish items without the whole. It will form part of the proceedings ordered to be published, which will be put in type at an early period.—*Wil. Journal.*

Of course the Wilmington papers are the only judges of what is proper for them to do. But the numerous inquiries which have been made as to the terms of a very important contract in which not only all this part of the State but all the State is so materially interested, would seem to us to have called for some of the accustomed energy of the Wilmington press in stating the nature of the contract. The public do not care to see the verbiage in which the legal document is clothed, but they would be glad to know, in plain English, what is the substance of the contract, and what were the features to which Gov. Bragg objected, and how they were changed so as to secure his approval of the contract as it now stands? We can see no objection to the gratification of this very natural curiosity of the people, and no difficulty, (if there be the disposition to do it,) in briefly and plainly stating the facts.

FIGHTING ONE'S BATTLES IN PEACE.—The Wilmington Journal, speaking of a local election to come off in that town in a few days says, "We believe that the spirit of the community now is, to fight this peaceful fight in peace and personal harmony."

We might almost suspect the Journal of an Irishism, or bundle of Irishisms, if we did not remember poor John Guthrie, and his "bill to enable the free and independent citizens of North Carolina to fight their battles in peace." The history of this bill, which was intended especially for Robeson county, where indictments for assault and battery were not popular, ought to be told by some one competent to the undertaking. It was one of the best performances of that man of "infinite jest, of most excellent fancy." Let the Journal tell it. No one can be better qualified than one so superlatively peaceful as to "fight a peaceful fight in peace and personal harmony."

VIRGINIA WRONGED.—We see a complaint in the Petersburg Express that Virginia has only one-fourth of the federal offices to which she is entitled! This astounded us, who have been accustomed to see "Virginia" printed opposite to so many names in the "Blue Book," and to know that, like Oliver Twist, her sons are forever crying out for "more." But the explanation lies in the fact that 2973 custom house offices are included in the number which the Express considers subject to division among the States. As almost all of these are local clerkships, given to residents of the cities in which the custom houses are located, Virginia cannot well get a share of them, and they would scarcely be worth having if she could. But we think it likely that she will be satisfied with an equal number of Cabinet offices, foreign missions, Governorships, Judges, &c.

The powers that be should look to it. It will never do to give modest Virginia less than her share of the offices.

The Western Extension.—At the meeting of the Stockholders of the Western Extension of the North Carolina Railroad, held quite recently at Statesville, the amendments of the Charter made by the last Legislature were accepted. The road was located to run three miles north of Newton, in Catawba county, to such point as the subscription of $1,200,000, already made, would complete the road.—*Wil. Herald.*

The Salisbury Watchman adds to the above, that Morganton will be the terminus of the first section. To ensure the completion of the Road to that point, an additional private subscription of from two to three hundred thousand dollars will have to be made to the Stock of the Company, and in view of this, the amendments provide for the opening of books at Statesville, Newton and Morganton.

STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY.—The 8th annual meeting of the Society was held in Edenton on the 15th inst.

The Raleigh Standard has been furnished with the following statement of business transacted:

The annual address was delivered by Dr. S. S. Satchwell, of New Hanover, in the presence of the Society and a large number of gentlemen and ladies. His subject was, the obstacles to the advancement of the science and profession of medicine. He discussed it with marked ability, and his address was well received and warmly commended by all who heard it. The address was ordered to be published.

Reports upon the diseases which prevailed in their respective counties during the past year, were read by Drs. McKee, Summerell, Kelly, Pittman, and Manson. They were all referred to a publishing committee, consisting of Drs. Dickson, Satchwell, and Thomas, of Wilmington.

The Society resolved to commence the publication of the *North-Carolina Medical Journal* some time during the present year; and elected Dr. Edward Warren, of Edenton, the Editor.

The following officers were elected for the present year: President, Dr. William H. McKee, of Raleigh; Vice Presidents, Dr. Edward Warren, of Edenton, Dr. C. W. Graham, of Duplin, Dr. C. Winslow, of Bertie, Dr. A. B. Pierce, of Halifax; Corresponding and Recording Secretary, Dr. W. G. Thomas, of Wilmington; Treasurer, Dr. J. B. Dunn, of Wake; Orator, Dr. J. G. Tull, of Newbern. Delegates to the American Medical Association in 1858, Drs. W. C. Warren, J. H. Dickson, C. E. Johnson, O. F. Manson, E. Strudwick, S. S. Satchwell, N. J. Pittman, T. D. Warren, J. W. Hutchings, C. Winslow, W. G. Thomas, J. J. Summerell, and W. H. McKee.

The next meeting of the Society will be held at Newbern on the third Tuesday in May, 1858.

COLPORTAGE IN NORTH CAROLINA AND VIRGINIA.—The Rev. J. Cross, and the Rev. W. J. W. Crowder, General Agents of the American Tract Society in Virginia and North Carolina, report, that during the year just closed, the "books disposed of by sale amounted to $15,617 89, or 62,472 volumes; and granted to the value of $4,736 60, or 28,420 volumes. 2,740 meetings for religious purposes were held; 5,032 families were found destitute of religious books, except the Bible, and generally supplied by grants; 2,817 families found without the Bible, and mostly supplied by the colporteurs; 792 Catholic families were visited; 3,685 families, according to their own avowal, entirely neglect the public worship of God. Religious conversation and prayer were attended to in 32,118 families; and 62,598 were visited, and a book or tract left at each house. 37 Sabbath schools were organized. Within twelve years, colporteurs of the Society in these States have been mainly instrumental in collecting 40,000 children into Sabbath schools, where thousands of them were taught to read, in addition to receiving lessons in morality and religion."

Nearly half of this work and distribution was done in North Carolina.

The agents for the two States are—North Carolina: W. J. W. Crowder; Virginia: Rev. M. T. Sumner, Rev. G. W. Kennedy, T. W. White, and J. Cross.

Mr. Crowder adds,—

"Let every Christian and patriot read and ponder, pray and act, that we may be encouraged and aided in pushing forward this humble work of fireside instruction and evangelization, until every family in our State shall have gospel leaven deposited in their minds and hearts by the colporteur, in plain talking and prayer, and in leaving books at every house, to continue telling of the dying and interceding love of Jesus for sinners. Our prospects for great good were never so cheering as at the present. May God help us all to help each other, while we now have the opportunity to do so much."

The Modern Sodom.—The publication of the recent order from the Department of War putting in motion a large body of troops on our Western border, under the command of General Harney, has created a general impression that their ultimate destination is the Utah Territory, and that it indicates an intention on the part of the Government to put down, by a strong hand, the criminal and disgraceful outrages which have so long been committed by Brigham Young and his band in the Utah Valley, and establish in that sink of iniquity (by force if need be) the authority of the Government and laws of the U. States.

Nat. Intelligencer.

The Resolutions of '98-'9.—Those moss-grown and cobwebbed fossils, the Resolutions of '98 and '99, received a hard blow in the Legislature of New York, in their formal adoption by the Republicans as part of a set of nullification resolves against the Dred Scott decision. The pretext for the proceeding was that the decision of the Supreme Court is a Federal invasion of the rights of the States; and so these affronted patriotic patriots betake themselves to the time-honored refuge of Virginia Democracy in as indignantly virtuous a manner as we have often seen the dominant party in this State do. The den of the prairie dog is said to contain usually, in addition to himself, a rattlesnake and an owl. Animals no less akin go to cover under the resolutions of '98 and '99. This is not perhaps the fault of the resolutions themselves, but it shows how unmitigated a humbug it has been in the Democracy to assume virtue and credit to themselves for periodically reaffirming them—for the most part, too, in utter ignorance of what they really are.

Petersburg Intelligencer.

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

NEW YORK, April 21

The *Fulton*, which sailed from Southampton on the 8th, arrived to-day.

Thus far the Liberals have elected 116 members to the new Parliament.

General Ashburton will command the military force going to China.

The Neufchatel Conference has indefinitely adjourned, on account, it is said, of the impracticable demands of Prussia.

A despatch from Madrid says: Mexico recognizes the justice of the Spanish demands.

In consequence of the spread of murrain in the north of Europe and Austria, England prohibits the importation of cattle skins, etc., which it is thought will have some effect on the provision trade.

There was an active demand for money in London, on the 7th, at 6 a 6¼.

All markets were drooping in consequence of an advance of the rates in the Bank of England.

Commercial.—Cotton quiet but firm. Breadstuffs dull. Wheat steady. Flour quiet. Some forced sales had been made at a decline of one shilling. Corn has a declining tendency—holders offer freely.

Money more stringent. Bank rates advanced to 7 per cent. for loans on stocks. Consols 92¼ a 92⅜.

AN IRISHMAN'S RESOURCES.

Mr. Meagher, in his speech at the St. Patrick's Day Dinner, told the following:

Paddy Shannon was a bugler in the Eighty-seventh regiment—the *Faugh a Ballaghs*,—and with that regiment, under the command of Sir Hugh Gough, served all through the Peninsular campaign. When the campaign was over, Paddy had nothing left him but the recollection of it. His only solace was the notice taken of him in the canteen. It is no wonder, then, he became a convivial soul. From the bottle he soon found his way to the halberts.

The regiment was paraded, the proceedings read, and Paddy tied up. The signal was given to the drummer to begin, when Paddy Shannon exclaimed:

"Listen now, Sir Hugh. Do you mean to say you are going to flog me? Just recollect who it was sounded the charge at Boressa, when you took the only French eagle ever taken. Wasn't it Paddy Shannon? Little I thought that day it would come to this; and the regiment so proud of that same eagle on the colors."

"Take him down," said Sir Hugh, and Paddy escaped unpunished.

A very short time, however, elapsed, before Paddy again found himself placed in similar circumstances.

"Go on," said the Colonel.

"Don't be in a hurry," ejaculated Paddy, "I've a few words to say, Sir Hugh."

"The eagle won't save you this time, sir."

"Is it the eagle, indeed! then I wasn't going to say anything about the same, though you are, and ought to be proud of it. But I was just going to ask if it wasn't Paddy Shannon, who, when the breach of Tarifa was stormed by 22,000 French, and only the 87th to defend it, if it wasn't Paddy Shannon who struck up 'Garryowen, to glory, boys,' and you, Sir Hugh, have got the same two towers and the breach between them on your coat of testimony thereof."

"Take him down," said the Colonel, and Paddy escaped unscathed.

Paddy, however, had a long list of services to get through, and a good deal of whiskey, and ere another two months he was again tied up, the sentence read, and an assurance from Sir Hugh Gough that nothing would make him relent. He appealed to Sir Hugh's pride and the breach of Tarifa without avail.

"And is it me," at last he broke out, "that you are going to flog? I ask you, Sir Hugh Gough, before the whole Regiment, who knew it well, if it wasn't Paddy Shannon who picked up the French Field Marshal's staff at the battle of Victoria, that the Duke of Wellington sent to the Prince Regent, and for which he got that letter that will long be remembered, and that made him a Field Marshal into the bargain! The Prince Regent said: 'You've sent me the staff of a Field Marshal of France; I return you that of a Field Marshal of England.' Wasn't it Paddy Shannon that took it? Paddy Shannon, who never got rap, or ribbon, or star, or coat of arms, or mark of distinction, except the flogging you are going to give him."

"Take him down," said Sir Hugh, and again Paddy was forgiven.

IS IT ANYBODY'S BUSINESS?

Is it anybody's business,
If a gentleman should choose
To wait upon a lady,
If *that* lady don't refuse?
Or to speak a little plainer,
That the meaning all may know,
It is anybody's business
If a lady has a beau?

Is it anybody's business
But the *lady's* if her beau
Rideth out with *other ladies*,
And does not let *her* know?
Is it anybody's business
But the *gentleman's*, if *she*
Should accept *another* escort
Where he does not chance to be?

If a person on the sidewalk,
Whether great or whether small,
Is it anybody's business
Where that person means to call?
Or if you see a person,
When he's calling anywhere,
Is it anybody's business
What his business may be there?

The substance of our query,
Simply stated would be this
Is it anybody's business
What another's business is?
Whether 'tis or whether 'tisn't,
We should *really like to know,*
For we're certain if it is not
There are some who make it so!

MARRIED,

In Richmond county, on Thursday the 16th inst., by the Rev. J. P. McPherson, Mr. ROBERT N. FAIRLEY to Miss MARY ANN, daughter of Daniel B. Nicholson, Esq., all of Richmond county.

In Lexington, on the 13th inst., Rev. J. A. BOOZER and Miss MARY J., youngest daughter of Mr. Andrew Hunt.

In Savannah, on the 14th inst., by the Rev. D. H. Porter, Mr. WM. G. NORWOOD, to Miss ANNA C., eldest daughter of Wm. King, Esq., all of that city.

DIED,

In Moore county, on the 6th inst., Mrs. MARGARET McLEOD, widow of John McLeod, in the 63d year of her age. She was for many years a worthy member of the Presbyterian Church, and died much beloved and respected by all who knew her.

Argus will please copy.

In Chapel Hill, on the 30th ult., Dr. GEORGE MOORE, aged about 60 years.

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE OBSERVER

It is a source of the highest gratification to us to hear of the overwhelming vote of Cumberland County in favor of a subscription of $100,000 to the Coal Fields Rail Road.

It is a result gratifying to every friend of the work, and it is hoped will ensure the requisite amount of subscription and the certain and speedy completion of the work—a work of the highest importance from the fact that it is essentially necessary to the preservation of Fayetteville in a commercial and business point of view,—and when completed will place her on the highway to wealth, prosperity and greatness.

It shows that the people of Fayetteville still possess that spirit of patriotism and liberality which has heretofore characterized them, and that they are deserving of that success and rich reward which we doubt not will crown their efforts.

We have strong partialities for the people of Fayetteville and Cumberland County. We well remember our first visit to the sand-hills, and to Cross Creek, as Fayetteville was then usually called by the old wagoners. It was in years long gone by, before the era of rail roads, when every man "cracked his own whip," and drove his own team,—and yet it is perhaps not so long ago after all, for although our locks are somewhat bleached by the frosts of age, we are not old; but we were young then, had been brought up among the oak-clad hills and valleys of the up-country, and had hardly ever been out of sight of the paternal mansion. We shall never forget how we enjoyed our first trip, how we frolicked and gambolled in the clean white sand, how we admired the tall, gigantic pines, rearing their majestic heads towards the clouds, and the beautiful streamlets, whose transparent waters flowed silently and smoothly over velvet-like sands and pebbly beds. And then of nights our party of wagoners would pitch their camp around a blazing fire of pine knots, casting a ruddy glare of light far into the dense forest of lofty pines around, the sighing of the wind among whose tops sounded low and mournful, like the distant moaning of old ocean's waves.

And then such suppers—as those only can appreciate who have participated in the luxury of good wagoner's fare,—with appetites whetted by a beverage rather more stimulating and exhilarating than sand-hill water; for this was in the days before temperance societies came in vogue.

And then after the repast was over and the cloth removed, or rather the tin cups and platters put away, the rustic joke and enlivening tale went round, with an occasional long yarn by some old veteran wagoner of "accidents by flood and field and hair-breadth 'scapes," with many marvellous exploits performed in trips to the Low countries, &c., until night wore on and tired nature sank to rest.

Our first impressions of Cross Creek, alias Fayetteville, were on a pretty grand scale,—it was even larger than we expected to find,—in fact, its streets seemed to us almost interminable.

But we have visited it often since in the capacity of wagoner; we have, in our hours of leisure, or perhaps in the solemn stillness of the Sabbath, strolled through its streets and burial grounds—read the epitaphs of her eminent citizens—deciphered the inscriptions on the tombstones and monuments, grown grey with age and covered with the accumulated moss of years, of many who had come from beyond the deep blue sea,—"from the land of the mist and the mountain."

But several years have passed away since we visited Fayetteville. A change has come o'er our manner of going to market. The North Carolina Rail Road passes in sight of our dwelling. The iron horse passes by with thundering tread, and his shrill whistle awakens strange echoes among our hills and valleys, as he bears by with almost lightning velocity, its freight of human beings or the surplus products of our fruitful soil.

The wagoner's occupation's gone; he has hung up his whip and reins, "and drives no more in the wintry time."

Already is a great change for the better visible along the line of the N. C. Rail Road. Real estate has advanced from 25 to 100 per cent.; property of every kind has gone up in value; people are improving their farms, building neat and tasteful dwellings, putting up mills, manufacturing establishments, &c., &c. In fact, every thing looks more promising, and it is evident to the most casual observer that a brighter day has dawned on this portion of the old North State.

Thus will it be when your Coal Fields Rail Road is completed. Business of every kind will be stimulated, property enhanced in value, and wealth and prosperity increased beyond the anticipations of the most sanguine.

I hope again to visit your goodly town,—not however, to travel the old road where I used to "crack my own whip" and drive my own team; but on the rail, drawn by the iron horse at 25 or 30 miles per hour. Until then, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

"M."

FOR THE OBSERVER.

WHEELING, VA., 19th April, 1857.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Son:—As many of my friends, before I left North Carolina, wished me to write them sort of a sketch of my travels in the great North-west, I beg to offer it to them through your paper.

I arrived at Washington City in the morning of the 17th at 4 o'clock, and remained in Washington till evening. Visited all the public buildings with my travelling companions, who had never visited Washington before. We also called at the White House, between 9 and 10 o'clock, to see the President. We found a great many persons waiting to see him. It was some time before any of us were admitted to see him, and when he rang the bell in his room for the messenger to open his door, I never saw a greater rush at a hotel when a dinner door was thrown open to the table. At least 100 men rushing in, taking the President by the hand and walking off to a corner of the room, boring him for office. In reply to questions put to him by men after office, the President would speak out so loud that we all could hear him. I never saw anything so disgusting. My travelling companions and myself looked on the scene a while and left, as we were no office seekers, without shaking the President's hand. It is a great pity that our Presidents do not advertise as soon as they are elected, that if any one applied for office no office should be given him. Let the offices hunt the men instead of the men the offices.

On the evening of the 17th at 4½ o'clock, we left for Baltimore, where we spent a night and day. The trade of Baltimore is greatly increasing, so they say, and so it seems to me from the crowded hotels and streets.

We left Baltimore on the evening of the 18th for this place, by the Baltimore & Ohio Rail Road, being promised that we should be here today by 10 o'clock, so that we could spend the day and go to church; but we had not got far out of Baltimore before we came to a train of cars that left Baltimore 3 hours ahead of us, run off the track, and that detained us so as not to reach this place till 6 o'clock this evening. This Baltimore & Ohio Rail Road is 379 miles long to this place, running through the most romantic country my eyes ever beheld. It crosses the Alleghany Mountains, rising a grade of 117 feet to the mile for 17 miles. Driven up by a 10 wheel engine, through several tunnels of considerable length, one of them a mile long and 300 feet under the ground,—and a town over your head as you pass through the tunnel. Before they enter these tunnels they light up the lamps in the cars, otherwise it would be as dark as midnight. This road it is said has been built at the greatest cost of any road in this country, and still the company is hard at work laying down a double track. One track cannot do the business of this road. There is, I am told, an average of four passenger trains per day each way, Sundays excepted, and some six freight trains each way per day. The cars are fine and run well, say some 25 miles per hour. It runs in valleys of rivers and creeks almost all the way; and when it makes from river to river or from creek to creek, its way is through the mountains by tunnels. If you were to see this road and travel over it, and see what has been here accomplished, you could not think your road to the coal fields anything but a small business. The Baltimore & Ohio Co. also own the road from Washington to Baltimore. The city of Baltimore took millions of dollars, and has loaned the Company millions more. The country from Baltimore here is a good wheat and grass country, great for stock,—good land, but mountainous; the summer is too short for many kinds of products. To-day, the 19th of April, we had snow almost all day, and plenty of it lay on the ground; also plenty of ice. The greatest town between Baltimore and here is Cumberland, a pretty looking place, with a population of some 8000. Wheeling is said to have a population of some 20,000. It looks old.

We start this morning, (for it is now 1 o'clock, A. M.) at 4 o'clock for St. Louis by rail road, some 700 miles, by the capitals of Ohio and Indiana. I will write again. Yours,

J. C. BLOCKER.

From the Charleston Courier.

OPERA MUSIC FOR THE PIANO.

The following exquisite lyric appears among the selected matter of the Home Journal. We do not know to whom to ascribe its authorship, but present it to our lady readers as we find it, with the inclination to concur in the opinion that is embodied in its "head line"—that it is "something that sounds like the very thing itself."

List! the piece is about to begin,
Now observe Miss Introduction come in:
A goddess in flounces, and pinch'd at the waist,
And a look like a statue, embellish'd with paste
All the keys that can be got at,
By the fingers straight are shot at.
Then a soft and gentle tinkle,
Gentle as the rain-drop's sprinkle,
One, two, three, four,
Five, six—run ashore
Then a stop,
Fingers drop.
Now a rush from top to bottom,
Catch the notes now, while we list 'em
Hear the music, for we've got 'em
Backward, forward, up and down,
Like a monkey or a clown;
Now the close—a gentle strike
Who did ever hear the like?
Piece commences.
Now begins a merry trill,
Like a cricket in a hill,
Now a short, steady motion,
Like a house-cat at devotion,
Or a ripple on the ocean
Set the fingers skip about,
Hear the notes as they come out,
How they mingle in the tingle
Of the everlasting jingle,
Like the hailstones on a shingle,
Or the ding-long, dingle-lingle
Of a sheep bell—double, single.
Now they come in wilder gushes,
Up and down the player rushes,
Quick as squirrels, or the thrushes,
Darting round among the bushes,
Making rattle, like the tushes
Of the swine, a-drinking slushes
Now the keys begin to clatter,
Like a chorus on a platter,
Or a housemaid stirring batter;
Hear the music that they scatter,
Though 'tis flat as I growing flatter:
All is clatter, naught's the matter.
Hark! the strains, for now we're at her.
Ow! the music comes a change.
Now we take another range:
Every tone is wild and strange.
Now there comes the lofty tumbling,
Come the mumbling, fumbling, jumbling,
And the rumbling and the grumbling
Of the thunder, from its slumbering
Just awaking. Now it's taking
To the quaking, like a fever and ague shaking:
Now it's making such a raking,
Heads are aching, something breaking.
Goodness! gracious! ain't it wondrous!
Rolling round, above and under us,
Like old Vulcan's strokes so thunderous.
Now the rattle of the battle
Deepens deeper, and the rattle
Bellow louder, and the powder
Will be all expended soon.
Such a clanging, whanging, banging,
Slam!—bang!—whang!
Heavens! how the music rang.
Ah! the harmony so splendid!
Is expended—all is ended.
Though I'm frighted,
I'm delighted
With this finery and this foppery,
Of this modern music opera.

Crinoline in Rhyme—By the Printer's Devil—A son of the old man.—"A lady with a crinoline was walking down the street; her feathers fluttered in the air; her hoops stuck out a feet. She walked the earth as if she felt of it she was no part, and proudly did she step along, for pride was in her heart. She did not see a curly dog which walked close to her side, all, save the bushy tail of which her crinoline did hide. His tail the dog with pleasure shook—it fluttered in the wind, and from the lady's crinoline stuck out a foot behind. A crowd the tail did soon espy, as it waved to and fro, and like a rudder seemed to point which way the maid should go. The curly dog right pleased was he such quarters he had got, and walked beside the lady in a kind of doggish trot. Each step the lady now did take, served to increase her train, while those who followed in her wake, roared out with might and main. Some held their sides and laughed so hard, and many fairly cried, and many even still confess that day they'd like to died.' But still the lady sailed along, in crinoline and pride, unmindful of the crowd behind, or dog close by her side. But soon another dog espied the tail, which fluttered free—it so provoked his doggish ire he could not let it be—but with a deep ferocious growl, for battle straight he went, and 'neath the lady's crinoline both dogs were quickly bent. They fought, 'tis said one hour or more—the lady nothing knew—but with her head erect sailed on, and did her way pursue. Some say she never would have known at all about the fight, had not one dog mistook and gave her 'limb' an awful bite. But since that day, I've heard it said, the lady ne'er was seen upon the street with so much pride—and *such* a crinoline.—*Weekly Star.*

To the Press.—Willis, of the Home Journal, alluding to the common custom, at dinners and other public occasions, of calling out the press to speak, says: "Accustomed only to express himself at the points of his fingers, an editor is called on to speak at public meetings, as if it were the same thing to a pump to give out its water from nose or handle."

A correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune says that about ten thousand imported slaves from Africa have been landed on the Cuban coast this season.

SUNFLOWER CULTURE AS A PREVENTIVE OF THE FEVER AND AGUE.

Under this head Lieut. Maury has an interesting letter to the "Rural New Yorker," April 4th, in which he gives the results of an experiment made by him last year with the cultivation of sunflowers as a preventive of ague and fever. He says:

"The dwelling of the Superintendent is adjoining the Observatory, which is situated on a hill on the left bank of the Potomac, in latitude 38°, 39', 53". It is ninety four feet above the low water of ebb tide and about four hundred yards from the river. The grounds pertaining to it contain about seventeen acres, enclosed by a brick wall on the east, south, and west sides, with a picket fence on the north. The south wall runs along nearly parellel with the river, and so does the west. The Chesapeake and Ohio canal, fringed by a single row of sycamores of some twenty years' growth, separates the wall from the river. In fact, the river, with its marshes at the foot of the hill, encircles the grounds of the Observatory half way round, viz. from southeast, by way of south, to northwest. Thus, you perceive, we are in a sort of bend in the river. Most of the marshes are just 'a wash' at low water, parts of them are bare when the tide is out, and all of them in the early summer are covered with a rank growth of grass and weeds, which begin to decay in August. This is the commencement, too, of the sickly season, and a few minutes' walk about the grounds of the Observatory after sunset has been found to bring on upon strangers an attack of the ague and fever. The place is so unhealthy that my family are compelled to desert it for four or five months every year. Last year they broke up early in May, and did not return till November."

Then a process of reasoning like the following led him to try the experiment:

"If it be the decay of the vegetable matter on the marshes that produces the sickness on the hill, then the sickness must be owing to the deleterious effects of some gas, miasma, or effluvium that is set free during the decomposition; and, if so, the poisonous matter, or the basis of it, whatever it be, must have been elaborated during the growth of the weeds and set free in their decay. Now, if this reasoning be good, why might we not, by planting other vegetable matter between us and the marshes, and by bringing it into vigorous growth just about the time that that of the marshes begins to decay, bring fresh force of the vegetable kingdom again to play upon this poisonous matter, and elaborate it again into vegetable tissue and so purify the air?

"This reasoning," he says, "appeared plausible enough to justify the trouble and expense of experiment, and I was encouraged to expect more or less success from it in the circumstance that every body said, 'plant trees between you and the marshes; they will keep off the chills'." But, as to the trees, it so happens that at the very time when the decomposition on the marshes is going on most rapidly, the trees, for the most part, have stopped their growth to prepare for the winter, and, though trees might do some good, yet a rank growth of something got up for the occasion might do more. Hops climb high; they are good absorbents and of rank growth; but there were objections to hops on account of stakes, poles, &c. I recollected that I had often seen sunflowers growing about the cabins in the West, and had heard, in explanation, that it was 'healthy' to have them. This was so much more in favor of making the experiment with sunflowers.

"An acre of sunflowers will absorb during their growth many thousand gallons of water more than are supplied by the rains. They are great absorbents. They are of easy cultivation, are more rank than hops; they require no poles, and the seed are very valuable. I paid 8$ a bushel for them. This plant, therefore, apparently offered to fulfil all the conditions required to satisfy the problem; for if the supposition that the ague and fever poison be imparted to the atmosphere by the decaying vegetable matter in the marshes, and if this poison were set free during the process of decay, why should not the sunflowers in their rank growth absorb it, and again elaborate it into vegetable matter, and so fix it, at least for a while, and until cold weather? I consulted upon this subject with one of the most useful men this country ever produced—the late A. J. Downing, of Newburg—and he thought the idea a good one.

"Finally, I resolved to make the experiment at the risk of spoiling the looks of a beautiful lawn. Accordingly, in the fall of 1855, the gardener trenched up to the depth of two and a half feet a belt about forty-five feet broad around the Observatory on the marshy side, and from one hundred and fifty to two hundred yards from the buildings. The conditions of the theory I was about to try required rich ground, tall sunflowers, and a rank growth. Accordingly, after being well manured from the stable-yard, the ground was properly prepared and planted in sunflowers last spring. They grew finely. The sickly season was expected with more than the usual anxiety. Finally it set in, and there was *shaking* at the President's House and other places, as usual; but for the first time since the Observatory was built the watchmen about it weathered the summer clear of chills and fevers. These men, being most exposed to the night air, suffer most, and heretofore two or three relays of them would be attacked during the season; for as one falls sick another is employed in his place, who, in turn, being attacked, would in like manner give way to a fresh hand. And last year attacks of fever and ague were more than usually prevalent in the neighboring parts of the city.

"Here is encouragement, not discovery or proof, but it is worth further trial, at any rate. Accordingly the gardener is making ready to try the experiment again this year, but with variations. The seeds are not to be planted quite as early as in the first instance, and, in the next place, there are to be two plantings, so that the last crop may be caught by the frost while yet the plants are flowering, and therefore in full and vigorous growth during the season of active decay in the marshes.

"Suppose the fact should be established that a hedge of sunflowers between the dwellings of farmers and the ponds or marshes and standing pools would generally keep ague and fever away, the discovery that such a simple contrivance would constitute an impassable barrier to 'the pestilence that walketh in darkness' would be an achievement worth recording."

Lieut. M. adds, in a postscript, that after writing the foregoing, he had a conversation with Mr. Watt, the public gardener, who informs him that many years ago similar experiments were made in France, with like success.

Annoying Mistake.—A venerable clergyman from Worcester county went to Groton on Sunday last to fulfil a pulpit engagement. On his way his carpet bag was exchanged for one that, on being opened, displayed a lady's night-cap and other articles of feminine toilet. The good old gentleman had to apologize for the non-production of his written sermon, and favored his hearers with an extempore discourse on the evils of life, of which the annoying evil of exchanging carpet-bags did not form a part. What the lady who probably got the carpet-bag of the clergyman thought of the "swap" is yet to be told.

Lowell (Mass.) Citizen.

From the Montgomery Mail.

A CHAPTER ON COMETS.

Messrs. Editors: A paragraph is going the rounds of the papers relative to the probable annihilation of our little orb by a Comet, computed, by a Belgian priest, to come in collision with it some time in June next. However extravagant such speculations may be, like all things pertaining to the marvellous, "this doctrine hath its followers." I was gravely asked, the other day, if I were not afraid the earth would come to an end in June! The age of Millerism, it would seem, has not entirely passed; and, so long as the credulity of the mass exceeds the learning of the few, we shall, no doubt, have this alarming prediction thundered in our ears. That the advent of a comet, in the limits of our own system, should excite within us feelings the most profound and reverential is but a natural result; but that we should regard them with a childish apprehension is to betray our own weakness and to question the wisdom of Omnipotence. When, however, we reflect upon the amazing velocity of these bodies, and the seemingly random nature of their movements, the mind naturally shrinks as though in danger of actual collision. The effects of such a shock would indeed be awful in the extreme, "producing an entire change in the now fixed laws of nature, and the destruction of every vestige of human life. A new direction would thereby be given to the earth's motion; it would revolve around a new axis and in a new orbit; a new equator would be found, to which the seas and rivers, forsaking their beds, would be hurried, by a new centrifugal force, thus deluging the fertile and habitable portions of the globe and leaving only their now fathomless bottoms bare." But when we reflect that to two hundred and eighty-one million of chances there is only one unfavorable—or that the danger of death to any one individual is but as if in an urn were placed that number of white balls and only one black, and his condemnation depended upon producing the black at the first drawing—the lottery is so unequal that the danger seems to exist but in a diseased fancy; and all theories are but as idle words compared to the declaration that "all things are turned round about. His counsels, to do whatsoever He commandeth them."

The history of comets, however, forms one of the most interesting portions of astronomical lore; and it is one of the proudest triumphs of humanity that, though

"From world to luminous world, so far
As the universe spreads its flaming walls,"

these wandering orbs may wing their ceaseless flight, yet the hand of science points with unerring certainty to the hour of their return. A *plane* view of the solar system, from the condensed representation of them in diagrams, exhibits somewhat the appearance of a tangled skein of silk, so numerous are the crossings, turnings, and directions of the various planetary orbits; and to think that among this seemingly tangled map of countless worlds an immense body is hurled, as though at random, with a velocity beyond the reach of human conception, must surely awaken within us a sense of such sublimity as to mock all thoughts of human greatness. The belief that the revolutionary periods of these bodies must all necessarily be of the most prodigious length was maintained by astronomers every where till within a few years, when it was ascertained that there were two whose orbits lay comparatively within our own neighborhood. One of these it was predicted, would come in collision with the earth in 1832. Its orbit was estimated to be so near the earth that had the earth been at that point nearest the comet's path, and the lawless comet been in its perigee at the same time, the earth would have been enveloped in the nebulous atmosphere of the comet. This proximity, no doubt, gave rise to many curious speculations on the subject, and, were the gravity of their atmosphere equal to that of the earth, the most alarming results might have ensued. But in this, as in all things else, we recognize the wisdom which fathoms and the hand which guides. That the extreme tenuity of these bodies is such as to obviate all apprehensions from their vicinity is reasonable from the fact that the smallest stars are visible through the densest part of them. And, while they are themselves subject to the most powerful attraction, they exercise no appreciable influence on other bodies, is established from the circumstance that "in 1770 a comet was actually known to become entangled among the satellites of Jupiter, and to have remained there nearly four months." yet no appreciable variation was perceptible in their movements. The idea of a perfect vacuum was also the prevailing opinion, till the existence of a "resisting medium" was detected by the vapory elements of comets. But the real use of these seemingly lawless bodies in the economy of the universe has ever been, and probably will ever remain, a matter of speculation among astronomers; consequently, many vague theories have been advanced concerning them. Whiston, the friend and contemporary of Newton, supposes the deluge was occasioned by a comet, and the same fantastic author hazards the conjecture that "they furnish the abodes of the damned, whose punishment consisted in being wheeled from one remote point of creation to another, thus undergoing the most frightful vicissitudes of heat and cold." But such theories, however ingenious, have no basis of facts to rest upon, and must, of course, ultimately fall before the simple and plain teachings of the Bible, which, though it offers no clue to the mysterious locality of another world, yet leaves us no room to doubt its realization in an awful or blissful eternity. Comets have, in all ages, been regarded by superstitious people as the harbingers of dire calamities, such as wars, pestilence, or famine; and it must be admitted that experience and observation have not tended to dissipate this illusion, for even in our own day we have seen how the beautiful comet of 1853 preceded the desolating siege of Sebastopol, and the consequent prostration of commerce throughout half the civilized world. But such coincidences, however remarkable, are nothing more, and can therefore take no hold upon the established principles of science and truth, which alike discard all false conjecture, and rest forever upon the basis of eternal wisdom and Omnipotence.

M. M.

Walnut Grove, Alabama, April 9, 1857.

The Cotton Crop.—It is generally understood, says a recent New Orleans paper, that there has been more early planting this season than usual, and on many plantations the cotton was up. According to authentic advices from the interor, all that was thus exposed to the action of the severe frost of the night of the 5th instant, has certainly been killed, and will have to be re-planted; thus defeating the realization of as early a crop as had been hoped for.

Coal for Railroad Engines.—The Illinois Central Company is still experimenting with coal burning engines. The early experiments were not in many cases satisfactory, but the result of a few days experiment with "Lucifer," was highly so. The engine ran twenty-four miles, with Coal at a cost of $9 25. With wood at a cost of $31 75.

If time be of all things most precious, wasting time must be the greatest prodigality.

If you would have a faithful servant, and one that you like, serve yourself.

Cape Fear and Deep River.—We are informed by Mr. Cassidey, the President of the Cape Fear and Deep River Navigation Company, that the following named gentlemen have been appointed by the Board of Internal Improvement, State Directors in the above work, viz: Hon. Abram Rencher, Dr. R. K. Smith, of Chatham, and N. N. Nixon, of this town.

We have also been authorized by him to say in reply to the remarks of the Fayetteville Observer, concerning the contract made by the Company with Messrs. Dungan, Cartwright & Co., of Philadelphia, that the substance of said contract will be published in a few days.

There is no disposition to keep any thing back.

Wilmington Herald.

Land Warrants.—The financial circular of Sweeny, Rittenhouse, Fant & Co. of the 21st says:

"The business in land warrants continues active, with increasing supply, and without any material change in rates. We quote the market as follows:

	Buying	Selling
40 acre warrants,	$1 11 per acre.	$1 14 per acre.
80 " "	1 02 "	1 04 "
160 " "	1 01 "	1 03 "
120 " "	97 "	99 "
Revolution'y scrip	1 04½ "	1 07 "

Our local stock and money market exhibits no quotable change. The demand for money, if any thing, is less active, and depositors find no difficulty in being accommodated."

Washington States.

A DISGUSTED DEMOCRAT.

We are ignorant of the character of the grievances, as well as of the persons, so darkly portrayed in the subjoined paragraphs, but are induced to reprint them as a specimen of the style in which "virtuous indignation" can vent itself when occasion offers.

Mr. Carpenter, of the Madison Patriot, the organ of the anti-Barstow wing of the Wisconsin Democracy, writes to his paper the following:

"It is well known that, in company with a score of Democrats from Wisconsin, I remained in Washington about a month to aid in so exposing the misdeeds of the 'Forty Thieves' that we should forever be rid of them hereafter, and it must be notorious ere this that most of our endeavors have failed. The hopes for our party in the future are vanished, and we have been cleaned out! The '40' find favor at court, while the old standby Democrats who have never been indicted for stealing, gambling, or perjuries, are permitted to suck their fingers at a respectable distance."

That the writer is disgusted, but not unutterably so, with the Administration, is evident from his closing paragraph:

"I am arranging some business preparatory to taking a bee-line for Madison to-morrow or next day, with the full determination that the Union may be rent asunder, the Potomac yield up its waters to old ocean, and become as dry as my pockets; Abolitionism revel in rampant luxury and dominion at the National Capitol; that Chimborazo may nod its towering head at the feet of a mole hill; that cholera, yellow fever, croup, and chicken-pox may vomit forth their pestiferous and devastating miasma to suffocate the poisoned *rats* of Washington; that lice, frogs, and all the plagues brought upon Egypt by the wickedness of Pharaoh may overrun and devastate our country, before I go to Washington again with a view of preventing thieves from filling places of honor and profit."

NEW SYSTEM OF PARDONING.—The Washington Union tells the following:

"It is stated that some eighteen months ago a well-know politician called upon Gov. Clark, with the view of obtaining a pardon for a prisoner at Sing Sing who had been incarcerated for a pretty long term for participation in a burglary in the city of New York. After listening patiently to all the palliatory circumstances of the case which were offered, his excellency replied: "Your request cannot be entertained at this time. Within the last two years the city of New York has had two hundred pardons. Now, look at Chautauque, Erie, Chemung, Allegheny, Oneida, St. Lawrence, Herkimer, Genesee, and half a dozen more counties that I could name. Every one of these counties gave me a majority when I ran for governor, and not one of them has yet asked me for a pardon. They are entitled to, and must receive, their share of my pardoning patronage, and the city of New York must wait until her turn comes round."

Curious Advertising Stratagem.—We have heard the following story narrated, but do not pretend to vouch for its accuracy. Some few years ago a hatter in London speculated in the purchase of the entire stock of a bankrupt brother tradesman; but, soon after his purchase, he found that he had overstocked himself. He was on the point of reluctantly dismissing some of his "hands," when a sharp witted friend came to the rescue. By his advice a handbill, announcing the cheapness of the hatter's wares, was prepared and distributed exactly as had been already done for some time, except in one particular item. The bill was headed "Who's your Atter?" and throughout its contents the goods were invariably mentioned as "ats":—"Youth's Silk Ats—Best Bever Ats—Ladies Riding Ats"—and so forth. The remainder of the advertisement was in unexceptionable English. The result perfectly justified the inventor's anticipations. These bills were sought after as typographical curiosities. Men shouted with laughter at the ludicrous effect, of what many considered ignorance on the part of the printer, or of the writer. They carried these bills in their pockets and merrily showed them to their friends. One or two elderly gentlemen, previously perfect strangers, came to the shop, bought "ats," and expostulated gravely with the "atter" upon the solecism. Young fellows purchased gossamers for the fun of the thing, begged for handbills, and held jocular conversations with the shopkeeper. The shop became known, and the proprietor, now a flourishing tradesman, frequently smiles as he hears the street-boys calling out the now established phrase of 'Who's you Atter?' the origin of which, but for the publication of this curious little episode in advertising, might, possibly in a few short years have been lost for ever to the antiquarian. To this day the pronunciation of the now popular inquiry is that of the original handbill.

Good Salary.—The Charlottesville (Va.) Advocate says that while the Salary attached to the Attorney-Generalship of Virginia is only $2,000 per annum, yet that Selden & Wither's indebtedness to that State, reaching over $200,000, is about to be paid, and upon that sum the Attorney-General is allowed a commission of 5 per cent. for collecting, making in the aggregate over $30,000 for two years' salary.

A Paris journal calls attention to sundry important improvements introduced in the manufacture of pianos by Alexandre. The improvements are introduced with especial reference to the prolongation of sound, but the peculiarity of the contrivance is not specified. In New York a similar improvement has been made by a well known manufacturer, consisting of a new application, intended to effect the prolongation and increase of sound by the use of a double sounding-board.

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 27, 1857.

GREAT CONTRACT FOR IRON ORE.—The reader will find in the letter which we publish from John H. Haughton, Esq., of Pittsborough, a statement of a contract which would be interesting but for the source from which it comes, viz: that a Northern Company has agreed to furnish on Deep River, within two years after the completion of the contract of Messrs. Dungan, Cartwright & Co., *seven millions of dollars worth of black band iron ore.* And this ore is to be manufactured on the spot, by which its value will be increased of course, how much we are unable to say, but doubtless at least as much more as that there is to be brought into market, by one company in two years, say fourteen millions of dollars worth of iron alone, from this deposite of undeveloped and untold wealth of North Carolina. We had heard of this contract, but not with any certainty as to its accuracy, before we received Mr. Haughton's letter; and our information was that the Northern Company spoken of expect to furnish all this ore from a tract of less than 300 acres of land which they have purchased.

What a prospect does all this open to our State, and especially to this part of our State! Who's imagination can compass its full extent?

But this iron interest, immense as it is, is one of various sources of wealth on Deep River. The coal is of at least equal value. And in addition to both there are building stone, millstone, soap stone, slate, fire-clay, porcelain-clay, timber, and water power to assist human hands in doing the work necessary to develope all their wealth.

Courage, then, all ye who have struggled to bring this rich region within reach of the markets of the world! Your day of reward is at hand! And you may rejoice with the people of the whole State that you have risen above the depressing influences of unjust legislation and its neglect if not the hostility of the State government.

The following is Mr. Haughton's letter:—

To the Editors of the Observer.

PITTSBOROUGH, April 22, 1857.

MESSRS. E. J. HALE & SON:—*Gentlemen*:—Aware of the interest you have manifested in the mineral resources of the Deep River valley, I desire to communicate a fact which I learn recently from a reliable quarter, as it goes very far to show the importance of multiplying the means of transportation for our coal and iron as much and as speedily as possible.

I understand that a Northern Company has contracted to deliver, within two years after the contract of Messrs. Dungan, Cartwright & Co., to complete the improvement of the Cape Fear & Deep Rivers to the Gulf, is done, two millions of tons of black band iron ore, on the banks of Deep River, at $8 50 per ton, on the spot. Here then is a contract for $7,00,0000, for a *portion* of the iron ore of that region; and to be realized in two years time.

This will, when manufactured, as it will be here, pay our River Company in tolls $700,000 in two years, or $350,000 per year; and this will be clear profit, because the proprietors of coal and iron are to be their own carriers and to pay us toll per ton, at an agreed rate already fixed.

Thus you see what reason the friends of the Deep River improvement have for encouragement and renewed exertions for the speedy accomplishment of that great work, a consummation, fortunately, soon now to be realized by the energy and resources of Messrs. Dungan, Cartwright & Co., who have undertaken it.

But this is not all. Let the friends of your Rail Road also take courage; they must now see that there is enough and to spare of the resources of Deep River to tax the capacity of both River and Road to their utmost, and that the sooner both works are done, the better for the State and all who feel an interest in her prosperity and independence.

Let there be no longer any jealousy of our River improvement felt by your citizens, or any further hostility; we will all have enough to do. Let us join hand in hand, and push on the great works that promise so much to all concerned, with all possible despatch. Such a spirit would have carried us successfully through the Legislature. Let all hostility hereafter cease.

I have great hopes that our people will consent to raise $50,000 or $100,000 for your Road, in this County, and thus follow the noble example of Cumberland.

When the proper time arrives, I hope to be able to take the field for your Road, and press its claims with all the ability I possess.

Very respectfully, yours,

J. H. HAUGHTON

In Mr. Haughton's letter there is a paragraph to which we feel obliged to take exception, much as we would have preferred to indulge in only pleasant comments. He says, "Let there be no longer any jealousy of our river improvement felt by your citizens, or any further hostility."

This is "putting the saddle on the wrong horse." The hostility has been on the other side, from the commencement of the river work, when it was proclaimed by one of its principal men that it would obliterate Fayetteville from the map, down to the last Legislature, when some of the leading friends of the river took the ground that both river and road should not, and others that both could not, receive State aid, and therefore worked for the river alone. It was this which obliged the friends of the road to look to their own interests. They had let the river company alone, for eight years, notwithstanding the threat of obliteration, and notwithstanding the obstructions it had placed in the river to the damage of citizens of Cumberland hundreds of thousands of dollars. And they would have continued to let the river company alone, if the spirit which animates the present letter of Mr. Haughton's had been manifested at Raleigh during the late session. But the friends of the river seem to have supposed that the game was all in their own hands. The State House officers were all their friends, and looked coldly on the rail road; the democratic wire pullers about Raleigh (with Judge Saunders at their head,) were for them and against us; and the Legislature was for them because unwilling to lose the $480,000 already invested. All these influences would undoubtedly have prevailed with a Legislature largely democratic, (we may say largely Locofoco,) but for the developements be-

...Committee of the Legislature as to the con... and management of the Company itself. ...was these developements, and no hostility of ...ections, which prevented the river company ...getting successfully through the Legislature. Mr. H says also, that the friends of our rail ...[must *now* see, (we emphasise the word,] ...there is enough and to spare of the resources ...Deep river to tax the capacity of both river ...road to the utmost."

This is no new discovery to the friends of our road. They had not a doubt of it when they commenced the road *at a time when nobody else believed that the river would be opened.* They have continued to spend their money under a sufficient belief that there is enough for both. They said we have so said many a time through the Observer, and they said so to the late Legislature. Some of the friends of the road subscribed to the river, and others gave it credit for large amounts; but we have yet to hear of a dollar contributed to the road by one of the friends of the river. We are glad to hear that these latter are satisfied that there is enough for both; and hope that the "joining of hand in hand" will not be a one-sided business, but that some of them will come forward in aid of the road, as Mr. H. for one proposes to do in regard to a Chatham subscription. And for this we thank him.

MILITARY VISIT.—By invitation of the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry Company, Maj. Draughon, the Wilmington Light Infantry, Capt. D'Rosset, will visit this place on Thursday and Friday next, as the guests of the Independent Company; which has also invited the Lafayette Infantry of this town to participate in the festivities of the occasion, and, (to such extent as is proper for youths,) the Fayetteville Cadets also.

We learn that the programme embraces a public reception and escort of the guests on their arrival on Thursday morning; an Address of welcome by W. A. Huske, Esq., public presentation by the Ladies of Fayetteville of a new Flag to the Independent Company, with addresses, at the Female Seminary; target shooting of the three companies, at the Fair Ground, for a splendid silver and gold goblet, 9½ inches high, with suitable inscriptions; a Collation at the target firing; the presentation of the Goblet, with an address, at the Female High School; dress parades, &c. All on Thursday.

On Friday, dress parade, and review by Brig. Gen. McLean; visit to the U. S. Arsenal; a military Ball in the evening at the Fayetteville Hotel. Quarters have been provided for the guests at the Fayetteville Hotel, on the most extensive and liberal scale, and every thing will be done to make the occasion one of mutual pleasure to guests and hosts.

CANDIDATES FOR CONGRESS.—Hon. L. O'B. Branch has been unanimously nominated by a District Convention, for re-election to Congress from the Wake District.

W. N. H. Smith, Esq., who was lately nominated by a Convention of Whigs and Americans against Col. Paine, is and has always been a consistent Whig; as such, we understand, he was nominated and accepted the nomination.

DISCONTINUED.—The Post Office at Mill Grove, Harnett County, has been discontinued. We suppose that the death of the late Postmaster and failure to recommend another to the Department is the cause; and we hope those interested will take the necessary measures for its re-establishment. Mail facilities are not so abundant in this section that any of them can be dispensed with.

THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY SUBSCRIPTION.—The favorable vote of Cumberland county in favor of the subscription of $100,000 to the Coal Fields road, has brought us a good many congratulations by letter and otherwise from various quarters in and out of the State, as well as elicited the approval of the press. Among the pleasant (and very encouraging) letters we have received is one from a subscriber in one of the upper counties, whose well written letter we publish in another column over the signature of "M."

REAL ESTATE IN VIRGINIA.—A new assessment of real estate in Virginia has just been made, and the result is an ascertained aggregate value of $373,424,095, instead of $274,680,226, as by the former assessment. Increase $98,748,-869.

This increase is doubtless attributable almost entirely to the internal improvements in which the State and individuals have so largely embarked. The wisdom of these investments, regarded merely in money making point of view, is thus manifest. If an investment of thirty or forty millions so improves property as to increase the value ninety-eight millions, we think the people have much cause for thankfulness, even though they are paying somewhat heavy taxes, which, by the way, their increased wealth and production and commerce make far more easy to them than the low taxes under a state of impoverishment and decay. And to the increased wealth must be added the increased respectability acquired by keeping pace with the rest of the world in improvements. A community which stands still whilst all the rest of the world is in motion, will gradually be lost sight of, forgotten, and despised.

The happy results of Virginia improvements are in a large degree visible in North Carolina and they will most certainly follow in Fayetteville, Cumberland, Chatham, and Moore, by the completion of the Western Rail Road. We have not a shadow of doubt, that in five years from this time, the value of property in Fayetteville alone will be increased more than all the $300,000 that Fayetteville and Cumberland have subscribed to the Road, and that the value in this town and the counties named will be increased to an amount more than double the whole cost of the road.

DIVIDEND.—The Bank of Cape Fear has declared a semi-annual dividend of 4½ per cent.

NORTH CAROLINA STOCKS.—We notice sales in New York of North Carolina 6 per cent. Bonds at 93. Virginia sixes at 92½.

THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.—Our exchanges, almost every day, furnish us with such paragraphs as the following:

"Madison, the capital of Wisconsin, contained but 1200 inhabitants when the national census of 1850 was taken. Now it is said to have reached between ten and twelve thousand. The municipal corporation is erecting a spacious city hall, four first class school houses, and other public buildings. At its last session, the Legislature made liberal appropriations for the enlargement of the State House, the erection of a State Lunatic Asylum, and the completion of the State University buildings on the magnificent plan heretofore adopted. Congress has also made an appropriation for the erection of a United States Court House and Post Office, and made the latter a distributing office. Then four separate railroads will be completed to Madison this year, and will erect extensive depots and other buildings. A number of handsome churches, mansions, stores, &c., are now in course of erection, of a beautiful cream colored stone from the Madison quarries."

Western Emigration.—"Every day," says the Indianapolis Journal, "and at almost any hour of the day, the wagons of emigrants can be seen passing through Indianapolis, bound for the prairies of the West. Some of the emigrants take with them their cattle and horses, and a portion of their household furniture. Our railroads, too, are loaded with emigrants and their freight on their way to the occidental land. The three lines leading from Cincinnati, Dayton and Cleveland daily bring their loads of passengers, all anxious to hurry through to the places of their destination.

Large Grant of Lands.—The quantity of land granted recently by Congress for railroad purposes in the Territory of Minnesota is estimated to be 4,416,000 acres.

We do not copy these statements to complain of the rapid growth of the North-west in wealth, population, and all that adds to the honor and prosperity of a State. It is not sought, by those who advocate a change in the land policy, to put an end to *their* prosperity, but to *our* impoverishment. And such statements as these ought to be most convincing arguments in favor of a change. Donations of lands make all these improvements, attracting to the free States of the North-west our wealth and population, adding to theirs, and hastening with alarming rapidity the day, which must come sooner or later, when the South will be powerless not only to obtain its share of the public domain, but to maintain its ground in the Union against the attacks of its enemies.

The land, or the proceeds of the land, can be had now for the asking, if the South can be induced to ask unitedly. Only the other day a bill to grant 700,000 acres of land to a Virginia Railroad Company was before the Land Committee of the House of Representatives, was favorably considered, and a report in its favor was ready to be made and would have been made but for the protest against it of the Virginia delegation with a single exception.

The Philadelphia North American thus remarks upon this senseless policy:

"Time out of mind the politicians of Virginia have resisted all attempts to distribute equally among the States the revenues derived from the public lands. They have also opposed their application to purposes of internal improvement, to the payment of the State debts, or to the granting of the lands themselves to any but the States or territories in which they happen to be located. As Virginia has regulated the tone of the Democratic party, and that in its turn has controlled the politics of the Union, the result has been that the old States have cut themselves off from the benefits of the lands acquired by their own blood and treasure. These same States, in their efforts to create comprehensive schemes of canals, railways and other improvements, have involved themselves hopelessly in debt; so that while the national government has more money than it knows what to do with, the tidewater States struggle wearily beneath an oppressive load of debt. Two States in particular, more than any others, have been thus burthened on account of the tremendous barriers interposed by nature to the accomplishment of their improvements—Virginia and Penn-sylvania. The latter would willingly, at any time, have availed herself of whatever aid she could derive from the public lands; but not so with Virginia. She has kicked and struggled with persistent and fanatical zeal against any such policy. Well, Virginia carried the day in this matter, and now we witness the result. In attempting to furnish her cities with railways to enable them to compete with those of other States for the trade of the interior, she has imposed upon herself a debt which is prolific of burthensome taxes. So onerous have the latter become, that thousands are fleeing constantly from all parts of the State to the new States and territories of the West, where taxation is light. Abandoned estates, deserted habitations and impoverishment stare her in the face everywhere. And yet, with less ability to pay, she has her demands increasing. In this strait there are some sensible people in Virginia, who think the Mother of States ought at last to receive some portion of benefit from the vast western domain she parted with long ago. This has been thrown into the pending canvass, and both parties are now discussing it vigorously. As usual, the Democratic party is against it; so, we presume, it will be again negatived, for Virginia never deserts that organization. But, what is to become of the State, if her financial distress be not relieved, we cannot guess. Perhaps Mr. Thayer's emigrant and society may work a change down there; but, just at present, the prospects of Virginia are at a low ebb. The race of national politicians has run to seed; the demand for Presidents from that quarter is exhausted, and not even a territorial Governor is taken from the land of undeveloped great men."

"FEW DIE, NONE RESIGN."—The Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce says that "not one of our foreign ministers has intimated his intention voluntarily to return home, although they have been advised that the Administration wish to make an entire change." The Democratic doctrine of "rotation in office" seems to be literally construed by these gentlemen. "Rotation *in*" is their idea. Rotation *out* was never in the platform.

"The oldest Inhabitant" has been found at last. At a late session of the worshipful court of Cumberland County, a gentleman of this town, we understand, was convicted of having been a Commissioner of Fayetteville in the year of our Lord 856. And so he is recorded on the County Books. An appeal from the judgment of the Court was taken, but until successful, (if ever,) we shall have the benefit of having the opinions of "the oldest inhabitant" on all weather or other important questions.

W. C. & R. RAILROAD.—The Wilmington Herald learns "that the contractors upon the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad, between Lumberton and Rock Island dam, are energetically engaged with their contracts, and show a determination to forward the work with all possible speed. And we learn further, that notices have been issued, and the contracts for the work from Walker's Ferry, or near that point to Lumberton, are proposed to be let at Elizabethtown on the 6th, and at Rowell's on the 8th day of May."

At New Hanover Superior Court, as we learn from the Wilmington papers, Needham Stanaland has been acquitted of the murder of Stephen Puckett. Solicitor Strange appeared for the State, and Geo. Davis and Eli W. Hall, Esqs., for the prisoner.

Joseph L. Robbins has been acquitted of manslaughter, (in killing a runaway negro.) Solicitor Strange for the State. Messrs. Davis, Miller and Baker for the defence.

John Lashley, convicted of stealing a watch, was sentenced to receive 39 lashes; which sentence was carried out by the Sheriff.

A free negro, named George Sampson, was convicted of entering the Store of H. L. Laughlin and stealing a small amount of money. Sentence 39 lashes.

Scipio, a slave, for the murder of John, a slave, removed from Columbus, convicted of manslaughter. Sentence 39 lashes on Saturday last, and 39 on Thursday next. Solicitor Strange for the State, and Messrs. Geo. Davis, F. George, and M. B. Smith for the defence.

MAIL ROBBERY.—At the late session of the U. S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia, as we learn by a letter from Savannah, John Chisholm of that city was convicted of mail robbery, and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment, with hard labor, in the Penitentiary.

The offence of which he was convicted was the abstraction of $200 from a letter mailed to Messrs. Stark & Pearce of this town by their Savannah Correspondent. He was suspected of other offences of the same kind, a large amount of money having been lost at that office about the same time.

Chisholm was a young man, of a highly respected family, had been at one time employed as a clerk in the Post Office, and was assisting in the letter distribution on the day of the robbery. He was a "fast" young man, and extravagance led to crime indicating so hardened a nature as to induce the Judge to punish him to the full extent of the law.

RALEIGH.—The assessors, says the Register, have valued the real estate of this city at $1,-107,100.

"It is my determination, so far as I may be able, to distribute the patronage of the Government in such manner as to demand the approval of every division of the Democratic party."

Such, says the Washington correspondent of the New York News, a Democratic paper, was Mr. Buchanan's reply to two recent applicants for office. In the earlier days of the Republic a President would have avowed his determination to make his appointments so as to secure the approval and advantage of his *country*, not of his *party*.

UNIQUE DOCUMENT.—A friend has handed to us the original of the following singular document, which was found in the drawer of an old table sold at auction in this place a few days ago. (We omit the names.)

I —— —— —— of the town of Smithfield & State of N Carolina, doo sollemly sweare in the presence of Almity God that I will not Deal in Ardent Speritz or encourage the use of it in my family. or that I shall not Drink or tipple in any wise unless so Directed by a Phisician after Monday Morning Feb'y 24th 1839 until 4th July Next so help me God.

—— —— ——

Sworn to before me this 23 day Feby 1839.

—— ——, Inten
of Smithfield.

The oath appears to have been taken on Sunday, and the poor fellow's reformation was to commence the next day, and to continue only 4 months and 8 days, when, we suppose (if not before,) he "treated resolution" to a grand carouse.

DESTITUTION AND DEATH.—One of the saddest pictures we have ever seen of life and death in a great city, is the following testimony of a little girl, eight years of age, before a Coroner's Jury in New York. Could any thing be more eloquent than the simple narrative of this child, more beautiful than his thoughtful tenderness to her dying mother, more sad than death under such circumstances, or more heartless than the conduct of the landlords who turned the family out of doors, and who would turn any others out who might take these poor creatures in?

"That is my mother," she said, pointing to the corpse. "The night before last two men came into our house and turned my father and mother and me and my two little brothers out. We had no where to go. We then went to sleep in an entry. Nobody turned us away all night. In the morning father went away to look for another place. He was gone all day. We had nothing to eat, and were very hungry. Father came back at six o'clock and then went away again. Nobody would let us into their house, because they said if they did the landlord would turn them out. The folks we hired the house of hired it of somebody else. So we went into the yard. Mother said she was very sick; she had been sick a long time before, and my little brothers cried. Mother lay down and I put some rags on her to keep her warm, because she said her head ached so bad. When it got dark my two little brothers lay down and I put some things over them, and I got some rags to put under them too, and then I sat up to watch. By and by a policeman came along, and then he went away and got another one, and they lifted her up and put her into a cart, and took us all here. Mother didn't want to leave the yard. She said to the policeman that she wanted to stay where she was."

Death of a Minister.—The Rev. James M. Fulton, formerly of the North Carolina, late of the Pacific Conference, died at Los Angeles, California, on the 5th of last month. "He was a good man," a conscientious christian, a faithful and devoted minister.

NEWSPAPER MORALS.—We have been gratified to receive the following letter from a venerable gentleman and friend, and to have had verbal assurances to the same effect from others, whose approbation we value. The fact is, that we have *acted* upon the principle thus approved, during our whole editorial career, and have proclaimed it whenever occasion called for its avowal. The increasing degradation of the newspaper press, (with some exceptions,) has made our last avowal of it more noticeable.

ASHEBOROUGH, April 25, 1857.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Son: Dear Sirs:—A remark in your paper of last week has pleased me so much that I feel disposed to express to you my strong approbation of the course you have taken. The remark relates to the publication of accounts of murders, &c. I am pleased with the course you have taken, because I believe that the publication of such things has a tendency to increase the evil. Familiarity with crime takes away from the dread of committing. Every one knows that the reading of licentious books serves to corrupt the mind, lessen the regard for virtue, and even, sometimes, to make vice attractive. There has lately gone the round of the papers an account of a man, who killed his wife, cut her into fragments, which he burned in a stove. In all probability, this man had read the story of Webster and Parkman. The fondness for this kind of reading seems to me to indicate a very bad taste in the community. There is a prevailing conviction, in the mind of intelligent men, that public executions have a demoralizing tendency. Blazoning forth daring crimes has a like effect.

Much do I wish all our papers would adopt the course you have in regard to these things. As newspapers have now become an essential part of family furniture, nothing should be admitted into them calculated to injure moral principle. As women read the poetry and children the stories, it is a matter of the highest importance that nothing be allowed to go before the public offensive to good taste and to pure morals.

Excuse me for the liberty I have taken.

UTAH.—From the Washington "States" we learn that the Mormon settlement in Utah is chiefly composed of Foreigners, and that what few Americans there are are mostly from the New England States. A vessel arrived at Boston a few days ago from Liverpool with 850 Mormons bound for Utah. These, like many other previous gangs, were collected by the Mormon Missionaries who infest every part of England, and indeed every country in Europe. An official Mormon report states that 3,626 of their sect arrived in this country from Europe in five months of 1855, of whom 2,231 were English, 409 Danes, 401 Scotch, 287 Welsh, &c. Only 28 were Irish.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

HALIFAX, April 24.

The steamship America, from Liverpool, 11th inst., arrived here last night.

The elections in England are nearly over. The Ministerial net gain thus for is sixty five.

The English Government have sent three steamers to assist in laying the submarine cable. The cable will be completed in June, and laid by July.

Spain.—A Madrid letter says an active correspondence is going on between Spain, England and France, on the subject of her difficulty with Mexico. Spain hoped to have obtained the moral support of those powers; and, in case the question goes beyond war with Mexico, their material support also.

The Danish Diet unanimously approve the abolition of the Sound Dues, and a treaty concluded with foreign powers.

Commercial.—At Liverpool, Orleans Fair had declined; Uplands unchanged. Stock 502,000 bales. Breadstuffs dull. Flour slow of sale—prices unchanged. Wheat—Quotations barely maintained. Corn steady at a decline of 6d.; mixed 30s., yellow 31s., white 33s. Consols for money 92¾; account 93¼.

Dead.—We regret to learn that Thomas F. Jones, Esq., one of the brightest of the sons of Eastern North Carolina, died at Hertford, on the 7th inst. He was an eminent lawyer.

The publication of the Ashboro' "Bulletin" has been suspended. Its Editors express a hope that in a few weeks it may be resumed.

Improvement of the Capitol Grounds.—It is with pleasure we notice that the Capitol Square is undergoing some improvements now which will render it worthy of the noble edifice which stands in its midst. The grounds are being plowed up preparatory to laying them off in gravelled walks, we understand, and setting out therein a large variety of flower plants, shrubbery, &c. When these improvements are added to the brave old oaks whose wide-spreading branches overshade the entire Square, our Capitol Grounds will be one of the most handsome squares in the country. *Ral. Register.*

Wholesale Embezzlement.—A New York exchange says, our wholesale embezzlements and frauds show no disposition to decrease in number. A new case now occurs in John McIlveen, cashier of the firm of J. Beck & Co., extensive dealers in dry goods, who was recently charged with having, during a series of years in which he has been in their employ, embezzled money to the amount of upwards of $130,000. The firm failed some months ago, and wishing to ascertain the cause, they instituted an investigation of their books, and the discovery of the above enormous deficit in their cash account was made apparent.

Export of Printing Presses.—Among the exports from New York during the last week were ten printing presses to Australia.

Fall of the Genessee Supension Bridge.—The much talked of structure at the Lower Fall, known as Genessee Suspension Bridge, fell into the river this morning about three o'clock, with a tremendous crash, leaving scarce a vestige behind to mark the spot where it stood. The immediate cause of the disaster was the immense accumulation of dense snow during yesterday and last night. The body of snow was perhaps one foot in depth and each square foot no doubt weighed thirty pounds.

Careful estimates, made from reliable data, fix the weight of snow on the bridge when it fell, at not less than one hundred and twenty tons, and some estimate as high as one hundred and fifty tons. With such an immense load it is indeed strange that it stood as long as it did.

The bridge crossed the river at the Lower Falls, some two hundred feet above the water. It was upwards of seven hundred feet long and about twenty feet wide.

A Birth Day.—President Buchanan was sixty-six years old yesterday, and at no time within the past fifteen or twenty years has he seemed to us to have been more vigorous, physically and mentally, than now, notwithstanding the herculean labors he undergoes.—*Star.*

☞ Our next paper will be issued on Wednesday night, instead of Thursday, for the reason that five of those connected with our establishment belong to the military Companies which will be engaged in the grand parade of Thursday and Friday next.

MARRIED,

In this place, on the 25th inst., by G. W. I. Goldston, Esq., Mr. THOMAS CALLCUT to Miss ZILPHIA SMITH.

At St. James Church, Wilmington, on the 22d inst., by the Rev. Dr. Drane, WM. H. C. WHITING, U. S. Army, to Miss KATE D. WALKER, second daughter of John Walker, Esq.

DIED,

At the residence of his brother, in Haywood, Chatham Co., on the 13th inst., Mr. HENRY C. AVENT, son of Mr. Joseph Avent. He was a young man of amiable disposition, cultivated mind and consistent piety. Cut off in the prime of life, his memory will be cherished by all who knew him.

At Monticello, Jasper county, Geo., on Friday the 17th inst., of pneumonia, Mr. AMBROSE G. BUCHANAN. He was a young man, a native of Cumberland county, N. C., but went to Monticello from Chapel Hill. He had been at Monticello but a few weeks, and was employed as a carpenter by Mr. John W. Cheek, at whose house he died, and to whom his friends may apply for further information.

In Chatham county, N. C., on the 4th instant, Mrs. EMILY T. M. ROGERS, consort of David H. Rogers, and daughter of Robert and Letitia Faucett, aged 28 years 5 months and 2 days.

In Moore county, on the 18th inst., FLORA CAMERON, wife of Wm. P. Cameron, and daughter of the late Archibald Baker, in the 20th year of her age.

In Germanton, on the 12th inst., Dr. W. W. STEDMAN.

☞ OBITUARY NOTICES, exceeding ten lines in length, and all resolutions of respect, &c. &c., are charged as advertisements.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

ARRIVALS.

Cape Fear Line. April 24, Str Flora McDonald, with goods for J Cowles, Tyson & Caddell, Murchison, Reid & Co, G W Williams & Co, Tyson & Kelley, Smitherman & Spencer, H L Myrover, C W Andews, Deep River Co, J M Worth & Son, S C & L Fox, Steed, Randle & Co, S J Hinsdale, J Kyle, Jr, D Hackney & Son, R Mitchell, P A Wiley, D Murphy, J D Williams, D & W McLaurin, S A Baldwin, J A Pemberton, D Shaw, H Parks & Co, H C McLean, A A McKethan, Smith & Zackery, Hersey & Johnson.

Lutterloh & Co's Line. April 20, 22, 23 and 25.—Strs Fanny, Rowan and Magnolia, with passengers, and goods for R Mitchell, J O Boon & Co, C C Barbee, J McDonald, W B Richardson, N M Hill, W McLean, A McLean, J Lum, E S Davis, H Driver, D Smith, B Rose, W C Troy, J H Wharton, J H Pritchett, J W Powers, J B Troy, E Overbaugh, H & E J Lilly, T S Lutterloh, S W Tillinghast & Co, Hon J C Dobbin, Dr J F Foulkes, R E Hill, J B Newby, J F White, A Johnson & Crow, Beasley & Houston, J R Lee, D & W McLaurin, W & Overbaugh, Starr & Williams, W McIntyre, S J Hinsdale, P P Johnson, A J Lanch, O Houston, A A McKethan, P A Wiley, J W Sandford, T R Underwood, J Kyle, Cook & Johnson, C W Andrews, J Ewing, Hon W Winslow, R E Heidle, J A Low, A Holmes, J H Roberts.

PORT OF WILMINGTON.

ARRIVALS.

April 22.—Schrs Alba from N. York, Volant and Pearl from Jacksonville, Kate from Tar Landing. 23.—Brig Captain Tom from New York, Schrs. L P Smith, W H Smith, Lane, Aid and Myrover from New York, Raven from Balt., Lavinia from Jacksonville, Lillie Sanders from Phila. 24.—Schrs. Two Marys from Conwayboro', S. C., L S Lovering from New York, Banquissett from Phila.

FAYETTEVILLE MARKET.—April 27.

BACON—	13½ a 14	LARD,—	13 a
COTTON—		MOLASSES—	
Fair to good,	13¾ a 13¾	Cuba	50 a 52
Ordin to mid	11 a 12¾	N. Orleans,	00 a 00
COTTON BAGGING—		SALT—	
Gunny,	22 a 25	Liv. Sack,	1 25 a 0 00
Dundee,	18 a 20	FLAXSEED	1 25 a 0 00
FLOUR—		N. C. SPIRITS—	
Family,	7 25 a 7 50	P. Brandy,	1 00 a 00
Super.	7 00 a 0 00	Apple do,	75 00
Fine,	6 50 a 0 00	Whiskey,	55 a 60
Scratched,	6 00 a 0 00	WOOL —	17 a 18
GRAIN—		TURPENTINE—	
Corn,	1 10 a 1 15	Yellow dip.	2 25 a 0 00
Wheat,	1 10 a 1 20	Virgin,	2 10 a 0 00
Oats,	70 a 0	Hard,	1 25 a 0 00
Peas,	1 10 a 0 00	Spirits,	a 40
Rye,	90 a 1 00		

REVIEW OF THE MARKET.

Bacon—No change. Considerable receipts to-day.

Cotton—We report no change here in best grades; the late news from Europe shows a decline,—see foreign news. New York 13¾ to 14.

Flour—We advance our figures.

Corrected by JAMES G. COOK.

WILMINGTON MARKET.

Yellow dip turpentine 2 75, hard 1 75. Spirits 45. Tar 1 50. Rosin 1 15 to 1 25.

At Charleston, cotton 11¾ to 14.

At New York Southern Flour 6 50 to 6 80 for mixed to good; 6 85 to $8 for fancy. Middling upland cotton 13¾. Spirits Turpentine 50 to 57.

Total receipts 2,730,691 bales, against 3,139,130 last year. Decrease 408,439 bales.

Office Fayetteville Mutual Insurance Co., APRIL 25, 1857.

THE Annual Meeting of this Company will be held at the Office of the Co., on Thursday the 21st May next. C. A. McMILLAN, Sec'y.
April 25, 1857. 2-tM

BANK OF CAPE FEAR, April 22d, 1857.

DIVIDEND No. 95.—A Semi-annual Dividend of Four and a half per cent. has been declared, payable at the Principal Bank and Branches on and after the 1st May next.

The transfer books will be closed till 1st May.

H. R. SAVAGE, Cash'r.
April 23. 2-tM1

NOTICE.

BANK OF CAPE FEAR, April 22d, 1857.

THE Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Bank of Cape Fear, will be held at the Banking House in Wilmington, on Thursday the 7th day of May next. H. R. SAVAGE, Cash'r.
April 23. 2-tm

ASSIGNEES' SALE.

BY VIRTUE of a deed of trust made by John and James Banks, to the undersigned, on the 3d day of March, 1857, we will proceed to sell at public Auction in front of the Custom House, on 20th May, at 11 o'clock, A. M., the Steamer BROTHERS AND 4 LIGHTERS.

Terms made known on day of sale.

JAS. T. PETTEWAY, }
JESSE T. WARDEN. } Assignees.
Wilmington, April 25. 2-tf

NOTICE.

THE Notes and Accounts remaining due to the late firm of B. & B. W. Robinson *must* now be settled. This business will be attended to by Benj'n R. Huske, Esq., John H. Robinson, or myself.

B. W. ROBINSON,
Surviving Partner.
Fayetteville, April 27, 1857. 2-8w
Argus and Carolinian copy 3 weeks.

M. FAULK

Has just received a large and fancy assortment of BOOTS and SHOES; Ladies' Gaiters, Satin and Colored; Ladies' and Gents' DANCING SHOES of a new and beautiful pattern, and every style of article in his line.

His stock is choice and carefully selected by himself, and buyers will find it to their interest to call before purchasing elsewhere. Corner of Gillespie and Franklin streets.
April 21, 1857. 1tf

SECOND SPRING STOCK.

STARR & WILLIAMS

HAVE now in Store their Second Stock of SEASONABLE GOODS, which they will offer to the Wholesale Trade very low for CASH, or on the usual time to prompt paying buyers.

J. B. STARR. J. M. WILLIAMS.
April 24, 1857. 2tf
Town papers copy.

200 BUSHELS WHITE BREAD CORN. For sale by B. ROSE.
April 27. 2-3t

3000 lbs. North Carolina Bacon, Hams, Sides, and Shoulders, (suitable for family use,) for sale in quantities to suit by B. ROSE.

5 HHDS. MOLASSES,

OF the best quality and in excellent order. For sale by B. ROSE.
April 27. 2-3t

ADAMANTINE CANDLES

FOR sale by S. J. HINSDALE.
April 27. 2-3t

Edinburgh Ale and London Porter, for sale by S. J. HINSDALE.
April 27. 2-3t

DeGrath's Electric Oil, for sale by S. J. HINSDALE.
April 27. 2-3t

SELECT MALE SCHOOL AT OXFORD, N. C.

THIS School, which hitherto has enjoyed a high degree of prosperity under the conduct of J. H. Horner, A. M., by whom it was originally established, will be re-opened on the 15th of July, and arranged to prepare boys for advanced classes in the University.

For this purpose, Prof. A. G. Brown, whose reputation is well known as a Teacher of the Ancient Classics during the last thirteen years at Chapel Hill, will be associated with the present Principal, and Rev. T. J. Horner will continue to be an assistant Instructor.

The School, as thus organized, is designed to be permanent and of the highest grade. As it is divided into a few classes pursuing a regular course of studies, considerable time will be devoted to examination and lecture upon the subject of every lesson by each instructor in his own department.

Important advantages have been secured by the establishment of a Literary Society, with its library, and an efficient system of discipline, in which especial attention is given to the habits and deportment of the young men, when not engaged in the immediate duties of the School.

Its location is very eligible; the climate of Oxford is excellent, and the comnodious building lately erected, stands on an eminence in a beautiful grove, beyond the corporate limits of the town and near the residence of the Principal and other private families, who will accommodate the Students with board.

Two terms of twenty weeks each, coinciding with those of the University, compose the scholastic year, and the price of board and tuition is ninety dollars a term.

Applications should be made as early as practicable, accompanied in every instance with a statement of the age and proficiency of the applicant.
April 24, 1857. 2-t15Jy

HOTEL AND LANDS FOR SALE.

THAT valuable property in the Town of Asheboro', known as DRAKE'S HOTEL, with all the Furniture, is offered for sale. It is handsomely located with every convenience necessary. Also, meadows and Farming Land near Town, with plenty of fire wood, will be sold with it if desired. It is one of the healthiest places and affords the best water in the county.

Those who wish to purchase good property will do well to call soon, as the property will be sold. Terms easy, one fourth cash, the balance in notes negotiable at Bank. J. M. A. DRAKE.
April 21, 1857. 2-3t

FISH & CORN.

400 SACKS CORN;
50 Bbls. No. 1 HERRING.
To arrive, and for sale on consignment by
E. F. MOORE.
April 22. 1-3t

COLOR-TYPES AND AMBROTYPES.

THE Subscriber has taken the Rooms formerly occupied by Mr. Nott, over Beasley & Houston's Jewelry Store, where he will be happy to wait on those who wish a good likeness of themselves or friends.

P. S. I would *particularly* call the attention of the public to the **COLOR-TYPE**, which in point of beauty far surpasses any thing in the shape of a Daguerreotype or Photograph, and is but little inferior, if not fully equal to the finest miniature painting on ivory, which it very much resembles.

Pictures taken in cloudy weather as well as fair.
M. M. FERGUSON.
Fayetteville, April 22, 1857. 1-tf

NEW HERRING.

A FINE LOT NEW HERRING, just received and for sale by W. C. TROY.
April 23, 1857. 1-2t

K. M. MURCHISON. A. J. HOWELL.

MURCHISON & HOWELL, *Commission Merchants,*

No. 104 WALL STREET,
59-itf] NEW YORK.

J. N. SMITH, DRUGGIST AND CHEMIST,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN
AMERICAN, FRENCH AND ENGLISH
CHEMICALS, DRUGS, MEDICINES,
GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDS,
Perfumery, Dye-Stuffs, Liquors, &c.,
FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.,

IS now receiving FRESH SUPPLIES of all articles in his line, consisting *in part* of the following:

Alcohol, Acids, Alum, Arrowroot, Borax, Blue Vitriol, Chalk, Corn Starch, Camphor, Cream Tartar, Concentrated Ley, Essences, Epsom Salts, Citrate Magnesia, Congress Water, Gelatine, Gum Drops, Yeast Powders, Gold Leaf, Glues, fine and common; Liquorice, Hops, Lemon Syrup, Lime Juice, Mustard, Potash, Pumice Stone, Sal Eratus, Soda, Saltpetre, Sulphur, Salad Oil, Sponges, Sand Paper, Tamarinds, Spice, Pepper, Cloves, Mace, Cinnamon, Nutmegs, Ginger, White Wax, Quicksilver, Verdigris, Indigo, Madder, Emery, Spanish Brown, Copperas, Venetian Red, Rose Pink, Chrome Green and Yellow, Prussian Blue, Vermilion, Umber, Sienna, Patent Black, Annato, Putty, Rotten Stone, Ochres, Whiting, Gum Shellac, Redwood, Logwood, Lamp Black, Litharge, Lakes, Copal, Couch, Black Leather and Japan Varnishes, East India and American Castor Oil, Linseed, White, Train, Neat's-foot and Tanners' Oils, White Lead, Red Lead, Brushes, Blenders, Grainers, C. H. Pencils, Window Glass, &c.

—ALSO, CONSTANTLY ON HAND—

TEAS of the finest quality,
Sperm and Adamantine Candles, Camphene, Burning Fluid,
London Porter, Scotch Ale, Pure Wines,
Gin and Brandy for Medical use,
Cosmetics, Dentifrices, Perfumery, Soaps, and Toilet articles.

All of the *best* Patent Medicines; together with a good assortment of Surgical Instruments, Trusses, Abdomenal Supporters, Shoulder Braces, Breast Pumps, Syringes, Magneto Machines, Forceps, &c., to which he invites the attention of Physicians and others.

Orders promptly attended to and satisfaction guaranteed. J. N. SMITH, Druggist
April, 3, 1857. 96-itf

NOTICE.

MY WIFE POLLY RAGAN, has left my bed and board without my consent, and I forewarn all persons from harboring or trading with her, even her nearest connexions, as I am determined to enforce the law in every instance. BRYANT RAGAN.
Wind Hill, March 2nd 1857. 2-4tpd

Blanks for sale at this Office.

VALUABLE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

I WILL sell at public outcry on the premises, in Elizabethtown, on the first Monday in May next, the LOT and HOUSE and Store in which I at present conduct my business. The House is large, well finished and new, with the necessary buildings and a well of never failing water. The Store is a convenient one, with a large and well selected stock of Goods, which will be sold with the House, if desired. The Lot contains about one acre, and is in a good state of cultivation. Also, at the same time and place, will be sold a valuable Lot, adjoining the above, on which there is a new and convenient Dwelling House, with all necessary outbuildings. Also, a valuable Lot in the town of Lumberton, on which there is a new and convenient Dwelling House, with all necessary outbuildings. Also, a valuable Lot in the town of Whiteville